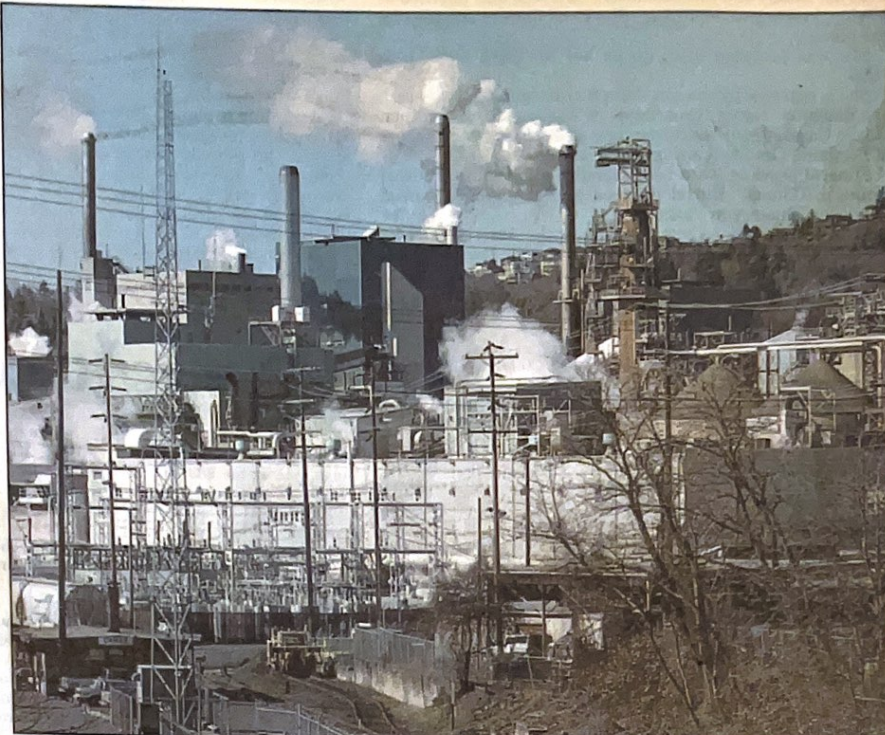


The Camas mill will begin testing its new warning siren on April 2. What the test tone will sound like will be determined by mill officials based on comments they receive from the community. Possible tones could include chimes, a traditional noon whistle or a tolling bell. The test sound for a warning system located in a city on the Oregon coast is mooing cows.



HEATHER KIBBEE/POST-RECORD

Mill installs warning system

☐ Regular testing tone will be heard

By Heather Kibbee
Post-Record staff

The Georgia-Pacific mill in Camas will soon be testing its new community-wide warning system. Just what that permanent testing tone will sound like, however, has yet to be determined.

The first test is scheduled to take place April 2, at noon. The sound will be audible within a one-mile radius of the mill.

According to mill spokeswoman Carolyn McGreevy, G-P is currently seeking input from the community on the issue of the test sound; in addition to

**To let Georgia-Pacific
know what test tone you
would like to hear, contact:**

Carolyn McGreevy
at 817-2124
or visit the Camas mill's
website at
www.gpcamas.com

how often the testing should occur, which could range from every day to once a month.

"We are asking the public how often they would be willing to hear the test tone," McGreevy said. "We can test it

often, or not as often."

Mill employees are in the process of contacting community members to explain the system and gather input.

Possible tones could include chimes, tolling bells or a noon whistle.

"It needs to be a sound that the community finds reasonably pleasant," McGreevy said.

There are two sirens located on mill property — one on the south side and one on the north side.

When an actual high-level emergency such as a release of hazardous materials, earthquake, or severe weather occurs, a traditional "Danish" wailing siren sound will be activated. Residents would then need to respond by listening to the radio

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or television to determine whether the emergency requires evacuation or "shelter-in-place."

Shelter-in-place is a plan that creates a short-term protected environment inside a home or business during an emergency, including hazardous materials spills or releases, until the all clear is given.

Shelter-in-place brochures and tapes are available at the Camas Public Library, the Chamber of Commerce, the mill's main lobby on Adams Street and local businesses.

The mill is working on the system's development with the Camas police and fire departments, 9-1-1, and the Red Cross.

The sirens were installed after concern was expressed about the mill's communication and notification process-

es with the community following a 7-minute release of non-condensable gases on Nov. 18, 2002.

The mill has spent \$1 million on its risk management projects, which include the siren installation.

A phone notification plan has also been developed that will inform Camas and Evergreen school districts, 9-1-1, and northwest Camas companies Wafertech and Sharp Microelectronics if non-condensable gases have been released for a period of time longer than two minutes. The previous notification threshold was a venting of 10 minutes or longer.

To voice an opinion on the warning system test tone, call McGreevy at 817-2124 or visit the Camas mill's Web site at www.gpcamas.com.